Increase in Haj quota

2525. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request from the Andhra Pradesh Government has been received to increase the Haj quota by 10,000;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken on the proposal;

(c) the number of people who performed Haj from the country during the last five years, year-wise, State wise;

(d) the amount of subsidy given, year-wise; and

(e) the additional facilities provided or proposed to be provided to Indian Haj pilgrims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Yes. The allocation of the Haj quota to States by the Haj Committee of India is based on the Muslim population. While some States including Andhra Pradesh have sought increase in their quotas, this has not been possible owing to the limit of the total quota given to India.

(c) State-wise list of number of pilgrims who performed Haj during the last five years is at the Statement (*See* below).

(d) The amount of subsidy given for air travel year-wise during the last five years is as follows:

Year	Subsidy given for air travel (Rs. crores)
2003	* 172.00
2004	* 160.70
2005	* 198.00
2006	* 290.00
2006-11	* 367.00

* Provisional figures

(e) Every year the Government of India makes arrangements to facilitate the transportation to Saudi Arabia of the 1,10,000 pilgrims going through the Haj Committee of India and facilitates provision of accommodation and other logistical support for them. For efficient management and supervision of Haj arrangements, a large contingent of seasonal local staff, supervisors, data entry operators, drivers and messengers is appointed by Consulate General of India, Jeddah. In addition, Doctors, Nurses and other para-medical staff, Coordinators, Assistant Haj Officers, Haj Assistants and Khadimul Hujjaj are sent from India on short-term deputation to

Saudi Arabia. A hospital in Makkah and branch offices-cum-dispensaries in Makkah and Madina are set up for Haj pilgrims. Medicines provided at these dispensaries and hospital are supplied from India and also procured locally. The Haj Committee of India provides to the pilgrims information regarding confirmation of their seats, travel documents, transportation, accommodation, release of foreign exchange, embarkation points and departure dates etc.

Statement

State-wise list of Hai pilgrims during the last five years

State	2003	2004	2005	2006	2006-II
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andaman and Nicobar Islands (UT)	22	37	23	38	39
Andhra Pradesh	4841	4584	5299	6172	6980
Assam	1102	1240	1459	2020	2157
Bihar	1508	1436	1517	2100	2324
Jharkhand	811	832	921	1043	1311
Chandigarh (UT)	22	37	36	33	28
Chhattisgarh	287	310	395	579	641
Dadra and Nagar Haveli (UT)	5	5	14	4	15
Daman and Diu (UT)	27	9	24	14	10
Delhi (NCT)	2435	2619	3001	2617	2419
Goa	19	20	25	36	74
Gujarat	4351	5168	5896	6351	4760
Himachal Pradesh	44	51	70	94	110
Haryana	480	515	924	947	1489
Jammu and Kashmir	7701	8923	8593	9167	10616
Karnataka	3608	3653	4053	5488	6735
Kerala	7813	7503	9121	10714	7870
Lakshdweep (UT)	156	123	159	226	247
Madhya Pradesh	2895	2588	3304	5270	3775

1	2	3	4	5	6
Maharashtra	8900	9180	9625	11300	11639
Manipur	132	172	206	191	195
Orissa	236	284	302	423	525
Pondicherry (UT)	43	53	59	85	145
Punjab	225	237	230	255	351
Rajasthan	3585	3348	3855	5498	4923
Tamil Nadu	2743	2621	2578	3799	3608
Tripura	16	25	18	23	39
Uttar Pradesh	11944	12923	14400	18339	27019
Uttarakhand	423	596	897	1372	1966
West Bengal	1972	2336	2239	3308	4561
Government Quota	1449	279	1494	2154	1973
			*35		
TOTAL:	69795	71707	80772	99660	108544

*Next of kin of the stampede victims of Haj 2004

Visa restriction of UK

2526. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of United Kingdom has restricted their Visa regulations for Asians;

(b) whether such regulations were restricted for medical practitioners seeking job in United Kingdom;

(c) the status of Visa regulation in general; and

(d) the details of information obtained, if any by Government from the Government of United Kingdom?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) and (d) Details of visa related information are available on relevant websites of the UK Government.